



PATENT  
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of : Confirmation No. 4336  
Ian E. Kibblewhite, et al. : Group Art Unit 2855  
Application No. 10/528,515 : Examiner: Jonathan M. Dunlap  
Filing Date: October 26, 2005 : (571) 270-1335  
For a Patent for :  
THREAD FORMING FASTENERS :  
FOR ULTRASONIC LOAD :  
MEASUREMENT AND CONTROL : April 7, 2008

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Mail Stop RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This paper is being filed to advise the U.S. Patent Office of information which may be considered "material to patentability" in examining this Patent Application, in accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.56.

Applicants' Information Disclosure Statement, filed in this matter on July 31, 2006, advised the U.S. Patent Office of two U.S. Patent Applications, No. 11/344,028 and No. 11/344,029, which were co-filed on January 31, 2006.

An Office Action has since issued for U.S. Patent Application No. 11/344,028, and the following documents are cited in the issued Office Action:

U.S. Patents

6,712,570 (Kersten) - Issued: March 30, 2004  
6,186,010 (Eguchi et al.) - Issued: February 13, 2001  
5,970,798 (Gleman et al.) - Issued: October 26, 1999  
5,165,831 (Yager et al.) - Issued: November 24, 1992  
4,977,898 (Schwarzschild et al.) -  
- Issued: December 18, 1990  
4,333,351 (Bickford) - Issued: June 8, 1982

An Office Action has also since issued for U.S. Patent Application No. 11/344,029, and the following documents are cited in the issued Office Action:

U.S. Patents

6,598,900 (Stanley et al.) - Issued: July 29, 2003  
6,502,463 (Clark et al.) - Issued: January 7, 2003  
6,341,271 (Salvo et al.) - Issued: January 22, 2002  
6,053,906 (Honda et al.) - Issued: April 25, 2000  
5,726,349 (Palmertree et al.) - Issued: March 10, 1998  
5,092,175 (Winckler et al.) - Issued: March 3, 1992  
5,042,015 (Stringer) - Issued: August 20, 1991  
5,029,480 (Kibblewhite) - Issued: July 9, 1991

The U.S. Patent Office is further advised of an International Application, No. PCT/US2007/012302, which was filed on May 24, 2007, and which is entitled "Probe for Fastener Identification and Ultrasonic Load Measurement". A Search Report has issued for International Application No. PCT/US2007/012302. A copy of the issued International Search Report is enclosed, and the following documents are noted for being cited in this Search Report:

U.S. Patents

6,340,868 (Lys et al.) - Issued: January 22, 2002

5,211,061 (Goodwin) - Issued: May 18, 1993

5,018,988 (Kibblewhite et al.) - Issued: May 28, 1991

U.S. Patent Application Publications

2006/0004290 (Smith et al.) - Published: January 5, 2006

2004/0065154 (Kibblewhite) - Published: April 8, 2004

Copies of the above-listed U.S. patent documents have not been enclosed with this Information Disclosure Statement in view of the elimination of this requirement from 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(2) (See, Section 609.04(a), Part II(D) of the Manual of Patent Examining Procedure).


Due consideration of the foregoing documents is respectfully requested under 37 C.F.R. §1.56(a)(2). It is further respectfully requested that the Examiner acknowledge

consideration of the above-listed documents by initialing the PTO-1449 forms (2) which are enclosed with this Information Disclosure Statement and which list the foregoing documents, and by providing applicants with initialed copies of the enclosed PTO-1449 forms to confirm consideration of the listed documents.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted together with a "Request for Continued Examination (RCE) Transmittal" under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.114. No fee is believed to be necessary for the filing of the present Information Disclosure Statement. In the event that a fee is required in connection with the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement, any necessary fees can be charged to Deposit Account No. 03-2405.

Corresponding action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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